GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:304
ANSWERED ON:16.08.2005
REDUCTION IN ACADEMIC BURDEN
Annayyagari Shri Sai Prathap;Reddy Shri Mekapati Rajamohan

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware of the slow pace in the implementation of Prof. Yashpal Committee's recommendations on reduction of academic burden on school children;

(b) if so, whether most of the States have not initiated any action for implementation of the recommendations of the said Committee;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps being taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT(SHRI M.A.A. FATMI)

(a) to (d) A statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

THE STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) to (d) OF THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 304 BY S/SHRI A . SAI PRATHAP AND M.RAJA MOHAN REDDY REGARDING REDUCTION IN ACADEMIC BURDEN DUE FOR ANSWER ON THE 16TH AUGUST, 2005.

(a) to (d) The National Advisory Committee set up under the chairmanship of Prof. Yash Pal to advise on improving the quality of learning while reducing the burden on school students had made certain recommendations in its Report of July 1993.

The Committee`s recommendations were deliberated upon in meetings of the Central Advisory Board of Education held in October 1993 and March 1994 wherein representatives of State Government expressed their broad agreement with the recommendations. Steps taken by State Governments to reduce the curriculum load on children were monitored upto 1997 by a committee headed by Director, NCERT.

As most schools fall under the jurisdiction of the States/UTs, it is for respective Governments and Secondary Boards to implement the Committee recommendations.

Central Government directed the NCERT in July, 2004 to take into account the Yash Pal Committee's recommendations while reformulating the National Curriculum Framework for School Education (NCFSE), 2005. When finalized, the NCFSE 2005 will further address the problem of curriculum load on children.